



**H.Res. 842 - Expressing sympathy to and pledging the support of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of Cyclone Sidr in southern Bangladesh**

**FLOOR SITUATION**

H.Res. 842 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Steven Rothman (D-NJ) on December 4, 2007. The bill was referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee, but was never considered.

H.Res. 842 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 11, 2007.

**SUMMARY**

H.Res. 842 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Expresses its heartfelt sympathy for the victims of Cyclone Sidr, which has affected southern Bangladesh;
- Conveys its sincere support to the people of Bangladesh;
- Urges the United States Government to immediately make available all appropriate assistance requested by the Bangladeshi authorities; and
- Reaffirms its commitment to provide relief aid to the victims as the effects of the cyclone continue to unfold.

**BACKGROUND**

On November 15, 2007, Cyclone Sidr hit the coast of southern Bangladesh with 155 mile-an-hour winds that smashed tens of thousands of homes, damaged roads and buildings, and caused a 16-foot tidal surge that ruined thousands of hectares of crops.

The resulting damage from the cyclone is estimated to have affected 4,000,000 people so far through evacuation from and loss of their homes. Over half of the affected internally displaced populations are children, an estimated 400,000 of whom are under the age of 5. Bangladesh's Disaster Ministry estimates that the homes of over 750,000 people were damaged or destroyed.

The death toll from the cyclone is at 3,500 and continues to climb.

**STAFF CONTACT**

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